

# SOCIAL ACTION NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY, EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST, BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL EDUCATION AND  
SOCIAL ACTION, DIVISION OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, THE UNITED CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY  
MISSIONS BUILDING 222 DOWNEY AVENUE  
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

PRICE: \$1.00 PER YEAR INCLUDES SOCIAL ACTION RESEARCH BULLETIN

NO. 10 VOL. IV

NOVEMBER 1941

## CLERGYMAN PROPOSES A "PEACE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE"

A proposal for a "P.E.F.," a Peace Expeditionary Force from America to Europe after the war to fulfill the hopes of millions for leadership from America in the economic, social and spiritual reconstruction of Europe," was voiced by Dr. Everett E. Clinchy, president of the National Conference of Christians and Jews upon his return to the United States on October 14, after a month of study and observation in England, Ireland, and Scotland as a member of a committee sent out by the Conference. Other members of the committee were Father Vincent C. Donovan, Roman Catholic priest, and Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron, of the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Declaring that both Nazism and Fascism are discredited and that the chance of a Communist revolution is dead, Dr. Clinchy asserted that the one "valid and fresh" idea in Europe today is "the American idea of one nation of many nationalities, a confederation of people of every racial strain and every religious conviction who share the natural resources of a continent and combine the advantages of competition and cooperation and keep coast to coast economic machinery going." Said Dr. Clinchy, "a nation of nations with a single unity compatible with differences, and the Four freedoms assured to every national culture, is an idea about which the passions of people can be aroused."

To form this "P.E.F." Dr. Clinchy would send reputations of selected immigrants or descendants of immigrants back to the countries from which they came to tell the story of America. This would not be a cloak for a new kind of imperialism, "but the homecoming of men and women completely convinced of the American idea." These delegations would go to feed, clothe and heal and to carry back the lesson which the children of European stock have learned in their new home, that many nationalities can become a single political nation. Recognizing that American democracy itself is not perfect, Dr. Clinchy urged the extension of our ideals of freedom and democracy among our own people, among citizens of various racial and religious groups, and provision for more adequate sharing of the resources of life, if we are to have the right to offer the American ideal as a world ideal. Freedom is not a possession but an achievement. Basic to both peace and freedom is recognition on the part of all peoples of the Law of Divine Love.

## A LAYMAN STATES HIS CONVICTIONS ABOUT WAR

Mr. William R. Bridges, a layman of the Mt. Sterling, Kentucky church has formulated his convictions concerning war in a carefully prepared statement given below. Mr. Bridges writes, the statement is the outcome of an attempt of a number of persons to focus the fundamental teachings of Christianity on the main features of war for the benefit of a Kentucky young peoples' conference.

The statement appears below:

### My Convictions Concerning War

William R. Bridges

1. I believe that war is based on the false premise that might is right, and by tragic experience has proved to be totally ineffective in adjusting disputes among countries, and that its results have absolutely no natural connection with justice, which is the foundation of permanent peace.

2. I consider war to be caused by unjust inequalities among nations, the struggle for power and world supremacy, irrational nationalism and the absolute refusal to share and make the best available to all.

3. I believe that war is made up of mass murder, the maximum destruction of both life and property, the engendering of poisonous hatreds, the glorification of brutality, the development of propaganda and lies, - in short, war makes every vice a virtue and repudiates every Christian virtue and ideal.

4. I acknowledge God as my Father and all men regardless of their race, creed, or nationality as His children and my brothers, and feel the consequent responsibility to treat them as such.

5. I believe that Jesus Christ, my Savior, introduced into human life a new and more advance method for dealing with one's enemies and persecutors, the method of love always returning good for evil and treating all men as brothers regardless of the circumstances.

6. I feel that I can best show my love for and my loyalty to my beloved country not by futilely engaging in mass slaughter and destruction in the name of protecting her and our Christian civilization, but by doing everything I can individually and as a member of appropriate groups to make the abundant life, spiritual and material, increasingly available to all both inside and outside our country.



According to United Press, Dr. Ralph S. Banay, psychiatrist at Sing Sing prison, told the American Prison Congress at San Francisco in September that American prison methods are 100 years behind the times and that 70% of the inmates would be better off somewhere else. He declared that his studies of Sing Sing prisoners had shown that only 30% are normal persons for whom punishment is justified and that the other 70% are abnormal mental cases that should be treated in hospitals.

Dr. Banay gave the following picture of prison inmates generally, based on his experiences at Sing Sing: one percent are insane, 20 percent are alcoholics, 11 percent are mental defectives and 20 percent are immature mentally and of the split personality type. Among Sing Sing inmates, he declared, 14 percent are more or less mentally deficient and this probably holds true for all other prisons. Some have a mental age as low as six years. The greatest problems however, are the psychopaths, the alcoholics, the emotionally immature and the others of more pronounced abnormal type who need some other form of treatment than prison life. One out of five is emotionally immature and this type of individual can commit crimes of the most atrocious nature, feeling no fear before or satisfaction after the act.

Alcoholics, said Dr. Banay, make up 20 percent of the 70 percent who should not be in prison. They do not drink for pleasure, but are driven by an uncontrollable urge. The same is true of sex cases. Many individuals of this type are of normal intelligence, but are unable to control themselves. Prison does them no good.

"The criminal component or propensity," said Dr. Banay, "is present in every individual and it is time to depart from mysteries, suspicions and vindictiveness. Instead of punitive rituals, a detached scientific and practical method should be employed so that the damage to the individual lessens and the benefit to society becomes greater."

-0-

One day in 1935, little Mary Jane Storen, a Chicago school girl was standing on a street corner leaning against a fire plug. Down the street came a zigzagging automobile steered by a drunken driver. The automobile crashed into a parked car, smashing it against the fire plug. When they pried little Mary Jane out of the wreck she was taken to a hospital where doctors amputated her left leg. When she got well she became a pupil in Chicago's Gompers school for crippled children. On October 14, 1941 a Circuit court jury gave Mary Jane damages amounting to \$27,500 against Andrew Mazurski, driver of the car, and the tavern owners who sold him the liquor, Stephen Klosowski and his mother, Mrs. Anna Klosowski. The action was brought under an Illinois statute which holds liquor sellers liable for damages caused by their drunken customers.

-0-

The Church Social Work Placement Bureau, has been established by the Association of Church Social Workers at 1441 Cleveland Ave., Chicago, Ill. They will be glad to assist churches in securing qualified social work staff personnel.

When President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill held their historic meeting at sea in August 1941, they issued a declaration of "certain common principles in the national policies of their respective countries on which they base their hopes for a future better world." The 8-point program has come to be known as "The Atlantic Charter."

On September 18, 1941, a little more than a month after the Roosevelt-Churchill statement was issued, Mr. John Foster Dulles, well known authority on international law and chairman of both the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) and the Commission to Study the Bases of a Just and Durable Peace, (the Federal Council of Churches), issued on behalf of the Federal Council group an analysis of the Roosevelt-Churchill statement that may have important effects on the reception of that document as a satisfactory basis of post-war world organization. Beginning with appreciation of the wisdom and courage of the two leaders in attempting to make any concrete formulation of peace aims in the midst of a desperate and precarious struggle such as that in which the world is now engaged, and recognizing as a significant tribute to the power of democratic ideals that the peoples demand and the leaders accept the principle that the long term objectives for which men dedicate their lives be stated, Mr. Dulles nevertheless finds "The Atlantic Charter" inadequate as a 'charter.'

While expressing admiration for its spirit and its many evidences of desire for more of justice and security for all peoples, Mr. Dulles makes the following statement regarding it:

"Taken as a whole, the Joint Declaration must be regarded as a tentative and incomplete statement. Doubtless its authors so regarded it. This is to be hoped. For, in its present form, the Declaration seems to reflect primarily the old sovereignty system. It follows too closely the pattern of Versailles, without, however, any of the liberalizing international institutions which that treaty sought to bring into existence. In the absence of mechanisms creating rights on the basis of equality, there would probably be an Anglo-Saxon military and economic hegemony whose self interest would be bound to the status quo.... The easy way will be for the victors to assume that the power they possess is so concentrated that peace can be assured only by informal processes, not requiring international machinery. The hard way will be for the victors to create international organs having the power to make decisions in which others will participate as a matter of right. Yet only this latter course can be expected to produce a durable peace."

In this penetrating comment Mr. Dulles puts his finger on the vital weakness of the Roosevelt-Churchill Declaration. For all its disclaimer of intentions toward aggrandizement, its assertions of respect for the rights of others, it re-asserts the old doctrine of unlimited sovereignty and declares for the maintenance of existing obligations and for retention of military supremacy.



Under a recently enacted statute, the Wisconsin Motor Vehicles Department recently revoked 50 drivers' licenses in Milwaukee county. The law requires forfeiture of license to driver after conviction for drunken driving, manslaughter, or negligent homicide resulting from operation of a motor vehicle while under the influence of liquor, failure to stop and give aid where a motor accident results in death, personal injury or serious property damage, and for use of a motor vehicle in the commission of a felony.

-0-

One of the unusual eating places in the United States is Clifton's, Los Angeles, with two establishments, one at 618 Olive St. and another at 648 S. Broadway. No guest is ever asked to pay more than he thinks the meal is worth and a series of 'subsistence meals' at 5 cents each and 1 cent each is available for those of limited means. The workers are all "Associates" who share in the profits. A weekly three-fold six-page bulletin, "Food for Thot" is published for the benefit of friends and customers. One page is given for the comments from guests. In the issue of July 31, 1941, a guest wrote, "You are making a big mistake in allowing so many Negroes." To which Mr. Clifton replied, "If so, the mistake is in the United States Constitution which orders us to serve every person equally, without discrimination. If so, the Golden Rule is a hoax. We are repeatedly urged to charge them more, put them in a rear room, serve them so they would not return, etc. Such things are violations of the Constitution, the Golden Rule, and our feeling toward our brothers."

-0-

Las Vegas, Nevada, railroad point for Boulder Dam, is running Reno a close race for the gambling trade. The Las Vegas Evening Review-Journal for August 4, 1941 carried display ads for the Las Vegas Club Hand Book, a race track gambling resort; the Silver Club, boldly advertising "craps and twenty-one," and the Boulder Club, announcing "craps, keno, roulette, poker, pan, twenty-one, and race horse keno. This resort also emphasizes its 'character' and 'reputation,' which, prospective customers are advised "is your sole protection in gaming."

-0-

In 1940 the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches established its Committee for Assistance to War Victims. In its first year of operation it raised and disbursed \$80,000 to aid victims of the war. The committee has been renamed the Committee for War Victims and Services and will seek a much larger sum for wider services.

-0-

More than 200,000 UAW-CIO union labels have been distributed by the Ford Motor Company to Ford dealers throughout the United States since the unionization of the Ford plants. The union label will be placed on Ford cars and trucks as requested by purchasers.

-0-

The one hundred and fiftieth celebration of the Bill of Rights, which places guarantees of individual liberties in the Constitution, will be held on December 15, 1941. President Roosevelt is honorary chairman of the committee on the celebration.

We are indebted to the October Legislative Newsletter of the Common Council for American Unity for the information given below regarding legislation introduced in Congress and in the legislatures of the several states which effect civil liberties.

The Hobbs Bill (HR.3) which would have provided deportation or concentration camps for certain aliens, which was widely opposed, even by the Administration, has been revised and some of its worst features eliminated. The measure is still a threat to traditional American liberties, but has been approved by the House Rules Committee and put on the calendar for debate. Infrequent House sessions has so far prevented consideration.

A bill by Congressman Dickstein (NY) (HR.5511) would amend the Nationality Act of 1940 to allow American citizens residing abroad to preserve their citizenship. Under the Nationality Act, a naturalized citizen returning to his native country and residing there for two years (under certain circumstances for three years), or residing in any foreign country for five years, would lose his citizenship on October 14, 1941. The Dickstein Bill, reported by the Immigration Committee on August 12, would extend the period for return to the U.S. till October 14, 1942.

The Allen Bill (HR.4873) providing that any alien "interned" abroad by a nation at war shall be barred from the U.S. until one year after he has been granted "unconditional freedom" by the country which interned him, has been favorably reported by the House Immigration Committee. A strongly worded minority report warned that passage of this bill would bar from this country aliens whose only offense may have been courageous opposition to Nazi-ism and would give preferential quota status to those who submitted to invaders or acquiesced in the policies of Quislings.

In the New Jersey legislature the Hargrave Bill (A.428) to prohibit discrimination in state employment because of race, color, or creed, was favorably reported on April 30, but has failed to make further progress. Pending in the Michigan Senate is a bill (S.220, by Nowak) to prevent discrimination against students and teachers in public schools because of race, religion, nationality, or color. The Michigan legislature adopted a resolution urging state employers to hire workers without discrimination as to race or color. Massachusetts has already enacted a law (Ch.170-1941) to forbid discrimination on Public Works Projects and in dispensing public welfare on account of race, color, religion, or nationality. The legislatures of California, Kansas, Nebraska, New York and Pennsylvania each adopted laws to prohibit various types of discrimination.

Some of the legislation adverse to civil liberties, proposed or adopted, are: a bill requiring physicians to be American citizens, passed by the California assembly; a similar requirement for osteopaths adopted in Arizona; similar bills for dentists and engineers in Florida, for dental hygienists in Wisconsin, and for dealers in explosives

(continued on page 4)



During the depression President Roosevelt made the headlines by asserting that one-third of the nation was ill-fed, ill-clothed and ill-housed. The emergencies created by the national defense program are beginning to reveal the truth of his statement and some of the tragic social consequences of this preventable poverty. Alarmed by what he called 'amazing and disturbing' figures showing that 43% of the men called under the Selective Service Act have been rejected for physical disability, the President has indicated that he plans for order a health survey of the entire nation. According to the Medical Division of the Selective Service Administration, the principal cause for rejection is bad teeth, which reflects years of lack of dental care. Eye defects account for 13.7% ailments of the cardiovascular system 10.6%; venereal disease 6.3%; musculoskeletal defects 6.8%; mental and nervous defects 6.3%; hernia 6.2%; ear defects 4.6%; feet 4%, and lungs, including tuberculosis, 2.9%.

The President need not have been surprised to learn these facts. This is a part of the delayed cost of the depression, a part of the price which we are paying, and shall continue to pay, for our short-sighted policy that kept doctors and dentists idle or on relief while millions of people needed their services. It may be true, as Propaganda Analysis, asserts, that the rumpus over national health is a part of the publicity program of the American Medical Association and organized business to forestall and hamper the development of socialized medicine. Nevertheless the fact remains that during several years the bulk of the people had no means with which to pay for medical care and that they are today suffering and the nation is suffering because of that fact. The simple fact is that we must discover ways by which the 42% of whose annual incomes are less than \$1,000 can have adequate medical, dental, and hospital care.

Summary of Legislation (continued from page 3)  
ives in Washington. A bill to bar aliens from the practice of medicine in Colorado was defeated.

Governor Dwight H. Green of Illinois vetoed 15 bills barring non-citizens from state jobs. Said Governor Green, "In more than half the world, the forces of oppression and totalitarianism are at war to destroy the principles of free democracy. This nation still stands forth as one in which the rights of the individual to sustain himself by his own efforts are guaranteed. I do not believe that this is the time....to weaken or withdraw that guarantee of freedom and opportunity."

The Governor of Montana vetoed a bill to prohibit employment of non-citizens in state and local governments and schools. Other bills failing to become laws include proposals to restrict the operation of automobiles owned by aliens and to restrict of teaching of foreign languages in California; a bill to forbid any person not a citizen to teach in New Mexico public schools; a measure to prohibit possession of fire arms by aliens in New Hampshire, two bills to bar aliens from state employment and public relief in Penn., and a bill to bar aliens in Montana from relief.

By the U.S. army standard a man must have the equivalent of a fourth-grade education. In two months more than 90,000 men were turned down. In one state 35,000 of America's young men had to sign their registration cards with a mark.

In 1939, in the thirteen states which in general have the highest birth rates and the poorest schools, there were 1,585,000 children in the first grade. The same year, in these states, there were only 869,000 in the fourth grade. A total of 715,000 children had dropped out of school between the first and fourth grades.

Because the people in the most prosperous sections of the country did not realize their obligation to see to it that those with less of this world's goods did at least get an education, the educated men must go to the army. This leaves the nation with the uneducated to carry on at home as workers and citizens.

If during the past tenor fifteen years sufficient assistance had been given to have kept at least some of these boys in school, they could now take their rightful places in the ranks of the army. Some serious thought should be given immediately to the fact that we are not even a nation of fourth graders.

A foreigner must know how to read and write in order to become a citizen of the United States. It is not unusual to see elderly men and women, some even in their late seventies going to night school to learn to read and write. It is not too late to have compulsory school for the draftees so that their literacy is at least on a par with the new citizens.

-0-

The October issue of Agricultural Mission Notes, published by Agricultural Missions, Inc., quotes North China Herald, May 22, 1940 to the effect that in Free China there are now 77,983 industrial co-operatives, while in Kiangsu, where the Japanese have obtained a partial foot-hold, there are 12,755. During the year previous a total of \$140,106,321.65 was lent out under the cooperative scheme, of which only \$74,987,049.92 was outstanding at the end of February 1940.

SECTION 562 P. L. & R.

Department of Social Education & Social Action  
222 Downey Avenue Indianapolis, Indiana